Coutwicks House
Hereford
April 11 1850

My dear Gray

I hasten to write a few words to save the mail (having been too busy of late to write at length) to announce the safe arrival of the box you sent in Dec^r containing both from yourself and Torrey vast numbers of species I had not yet in my herbarium They are come just in time for the Compositae to be immediately laid in - I hope you will find that Order in tolerable arrangement when you come I have just got through them in the arranging and cataloguing my herbarium - As for as

the end of Compositae I have about 26,000 sp. of which Leguminosae 5,200 and Compositae 5,300 - I shall write to Lowe next mail - the Californian Corethrogyne virgata is the same as mine only that my specimens are old and the wood is almost all gone.

When you land at Liverpool you had better send your boxes of whatever you do not want to take abroad with you - straight here they will be taken in and good care taken of them should we not be at home as is most likely. We go up to town about Whitsuntide stay there till about the 10th or 12th June and then make a tour in Shropshire and Wales so as to be back here in the end of July.

September is still a very good month here and so indeed is all the autumn only that the days get so short late in the year so that I trust you will not arrive here much later than September - however at any time most convenient to you for I have no engagements for autumn or winter.

Yours sincerely

George Bentham